



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MISSOURI STATE WATER PATROL
P.O. BOX 1368, 2728B PLAZA DRIVE
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-1368
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APPLICATION FOR BUOYS FOR THE WATERS OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

☐ PRIVATE DOCK ☐ ENTIRE COVE

DATE

The application must be filled out in detail, if not the application will be returned to the applicant for additional information.

NAME OF APPLICANT(S)

HOME PHONE NUMBER

MAILING ADDRESS

LAKE ADDRESS

MILE MARKER

NAME OF COUNTY BUOYS ARE TO BE PLACED IN

NAME OF COVE AND ARM

NAME OF RESORT SUBDIVISION OR CONDO DEVELOPMENT

NAME OF LAKE OR RIVER

Anyone requesting buoys must purchase and maintain the buoys, at all times and at the applicants expense and replace if necessary. If the buoys are not maintained in a good state of repair the said buoy approval will be lifted and all buoys removed by the applicant.

THE APPLICANT MUST COMPLY WITH THE UNIFORM STATE MARKER SYSTEM!

NECESSARY INFORMATION FROM APPLICANT

1. Attach a photo copy of approval Dock Permit in your name. (Private dock applicants only.)
2. Make a drawing of the cove and shore line. (May use back) Also, show directions on sketch.
3. List all affected property owners names on their plot. (Entire cove applicants only.)
4. Place docks on the drawing at their location and show any existing buoys in the area.
5. Give distance between docks and distance docks extend from the shoreline.
6. Show placement where buoys will be anchored by drawing circles.
7. Attach petition signed by a minimum of 75% of property owners and include property owners dock permit numbers on the petition. (Entire cove applicants only.)
8. Indicate HOW MANY and TYPE of buoys wanted. _____
9. Give approximate dimensions of ENTIRE cove: Length _____ Width _____
10. Show dimensions of cove area where buoys are to be placed: Length _____ Width _____
11. If application is for DANGER, BOATS KEEP OUT, OR SWIM AREA, please indicate DEPTH of water in affected area. _____
12. Give explanation for requesting buoys, in detail. _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

REGULATORY BUOYS AND AIDS TO NAVIGATION:

- a) Shaded area of buoys will be international orange or blue as indicated below.
- b) All lettering will be black with block characters.

AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND REGULATORY MARKERS

- a) The Missouri State Water Patrol after a public hearing pursuant to notice thereof published not less than ten days prior thereto in each county to be affected may provide for the uniform marking of the water areas in this state through the placement of aids to navigation and regulatory markers. The Patrol shall establish a marking system compatible with the system of aids to navigation prescribed by the United States Coast Guard. No city, county, or person shall mark or obstruct the water of this state in any manner so as to endanger the operations of watercraft or conflict with the marking system prescribed by the Patrol.
- b) The operation of any watercraft within prohibited areas that are marked shall be prima facie evidence of negligent operation.
- c) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a watercraft on the waters of this state in a manner other than that prescribed or permitted by regulatory markers.
- d) No person shall moor or fasten a watercraft to or willfully damage, tamper, remove, obstruct, or interfere with any aid to navigation or regulatory marker.
- e) The application must be submitted to Missouri State Water Patrol thirty (30) days before hearing date.



INFORMATION BUOY: Gives boater information such as public facilities.

CONTROLLED AREA: Restricts operation of vessel within the area. Operator of boat must proceed at idle speed, or as otherwise indicated on said buoy.

DANGER BUOY: Marks underwater obstruction; submerged island, rocks, reefs or a shoal. Stay clear of these hazards.

BOATS KEEP OUT: No boat shall enter this designated area.

SWIM AREA: Boats shall not enter this area. Barrier floats shall be evenly spaced between buoys.

ANCHOR OR MOORING BUOY: Prevents vessel from drifting.

**Title 11 – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Division 80 – Missouri State Water Patrol
Chapter 5 – Aids to Navigation and Regulatory Markers**

**BUOY GUIDELINES
Effective February 18, 2000**

11 CSR 80-5.020 Rules for Navigational Aid and Regulatory Marker Applications and Hearings.

PURPOSE: This rule sets guidelines for buoy applications and hearings.

- (1) Buoy applications must be submitted to Missouri State Water Patrol General Headquarters in Jefferson City.
- (2) Committee hearings for buoy applications will be conducted only between April 1st and the 3rd Monday in September.
- (3) Applications for buoys one hundred (100 feet) from a dock:
 - (A) Applications must include a copy of the applicant's dock permit (306.903 RSMo.);
 - (B) The application must include a diagram of the cove, the distance between the most lakeward portion of the applicant's dock and the dock(s) on the opposite side the cove;
 - (C) The application must show the proposed placement of the buoy(s) requested in relationship to the applicant's dock;
 - (D) Docks that are within one hundred (100) feet of the applicant's dock must be indicated on the application; and

- (E) Because of increased potential for boating accidents due to constricting of traffic lanes, “no wake – idle speed” buoys will not be approved for docks that are less than three hundred (300) feet from a dock on the opposite side of the cove.

(4) Applications to buoy the full width of a cove:

- (A) If the width of the cove is such that the distance between docks on opposite sides of the cove is in excess of four hundred (400) feet, the cove shall not be buoyed unless in the opinion of officials of the Water Patrol the volume of boating traffic is significantly disproportionate to similar coves on the same body of water, or traffic accident data support the need for idle speed – no wake buoys;
- (B) Applications to buoy coves that have a distance of 400 feet or less between docks on opposite sides of the cove must include a plot map of the cove with all affected owners names on their plot (306.903 RSMo.);
- (C) The application must include a petition signed by a minimum of seventy-five (75) percent of the property owners. The signature petition shall include each property owner’s dock permit number;
- (D) The applicant is responsible for submitting proof of property ownership and documentation that seventy-five (75) percent or more of property owners are in agreement;
- (E) There will be a one (1) property, one (1) vote rule applied, to be determined by property tax receipts;
- (F) Second tier home owners and condominium owners may sign the petition if they have a dock. Second tier owners may prove ownership by personal property tax receipts;

- (G) Placement of buoys in a diagonal pattern, rather than a straight line, may be permitted if the shoreline and situation necessitate such a pattern;
- (H) If there are permitted buoys within the area that is to be controlled upon approval, the permit number of the existing buoys must be submitted with the application. If the new application is approved, all existing permits within the new controlled area will be cancelled and the previously permitted buoys removed;
- (I) Owners of property within a permitted area may, by petition, request a revocation of permitted buoys. Revocation will only be considered, however, if twenty-six (26) percent or more of property owners sign the petition requesting revocation. The one (1) property, one (1) vote rule applies;
- (J) Approved buoys for a “no wake – idle speed” cove shall be placed one hundred (100) feet below or prior to the first dock affected, unless it would extend the buoys into the main channel;
- (K) If a cove is such that it has a bottleneck effect within the cove and then opens up in excess of four hundred (400) feet between docks on opposite sides, the property owners may petition for “no wake – idle speed” buoys to control speed within the bottleneck and one hundred (100) feet on each side. The permittee shall be required to place a four (4) feet x six (6) feet sign on a dock or approved structure at each end of the zone reading, “no wake – idle speed”, and conforming to prescribed markings. The sign must face boaters when entering the controlled zone from either side; and
- (L) Lighted signs and flashing lights on buoys will be discouraged unless one hundred (100) percent of the property owners in the affected cove agree to the application for lights. All property owners within two hundred (200) feet of the marked “no wake – idle speed” zone must agree to all proposed lighting schemes; If lighted signs or buoys are approved, affected property owners may, by petition, request to have the lights removed. The Water Patrol Buoy Committee may not consider

removal of permitted lights unless the petition to remove the lights bears the validated signatures of twenty-six (26) percent or more of the current property owners in the permitted area. Shoreline property owners within two hundred (200) feet of the permitted area may be included in the revocation petition.

- (5) Modification(s) to an existing buoy permit must be approved by the Missouri State Water Patrol. A request to relocate existing permitted buoys will require a new application and hearing. New applications must conform to the above rules. Modifications of an existing permit for name or ownership change only, does not require a new hearing.
- (6) Buoy applications for the same general area will be considered not more than two (2) times in a calendar year.
- (7) For all buoy application concerns, a personal watercraft is considered a boat for all legal purposes.
- (8) All rejected buoy applications shall be granted one appeal for the same location. Appeal hearings will normally be held at Water Patrol General Headquarters in Jefferson City. Either the Commissioner or the Director of Field Services will serve on the appeal board.
- (9) Temporary buoy permits for regattas, construction sites, etc., will each be considered on their own merit.
- (10) All buoys must have reflective tape.
- (11) The Missouri State Water Patrol retains, pursuant to Section 306.124, RSMo., sole discretion to provide for the uniform marking of the water areas in this state through the placement of aids to navigation and regulatory markers. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to create in any other party any right or entitlement to the privilege of placing such aids or markers or any legal duty on behalf of the Missouri State Water Patrol to approve or disapprove any request to place such aids or markers.